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MY FATHER AND I PLAN THE FARM PROGRAM TOGETHER

A radio talk by Cecil Fausch, 4-H club boy, Rice County, Minnesota, delivered in the National 4-H club radio program, March 7, 1936, and broadcast by a network of 58 associate NBC radio stations.

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My partnership experience with my father began eight years ago when I enrolled as a pig club member in the Morristown 4-H club. Needing a pig for my 4-H work, I entered into a partnership plan with my father. He let me select a pig from his herd and in return I was to help care for the entire lot. I knew that if I were going to succeed in showing winning individuals, I must build for them by regular and proper care of the entire herd. Then I would have better stock to choose from for future 4-H work.

My interest grew the next season when I purchased a sow from Dad. I cared for the farm herd in return for feed to feed my sow and litter. My ton litter project work along with caring for the herd gave me much experience and practical training with livestock feeding. Dad was eager to see me succeed. He also felt that the experience would be better for us both if we carried the work out on a partnership basis. The help I got from my Dad has been of great importance in helping to solve problems which have come to me on later projects. In our work together, Dad and I have tried some of the improved methods of raising our hogs and other livestock suggested by our leaders. One of these was the McLean system of sanitation in raising our pig litters.

Our partnership did not only involve hogs. We used it to the advantage of all enterprises on our farm. Although directly we did not have a set agreement on how we should share our work or what part I should take in helping to manage the business, we had a general plan for carrying on our farm business.

By 1933, we had developed a good-sized flock of fine sheep which we owned together. I entered the 4-H sheep production project that year and through our cooperative care and management, Dad as the voice of advisor and I as the one to do the work and carrying out his suggestions, set a state sheep production record in 4-H club work. We saved a 196 percent lamb crop from the entire flock. My success in this endeavor was due to working out plans for growing crops to provide early pasture and proper feed for the sheep and lambs. I respected Dad's judgment and advice on the many problems which occurred in caring for the sheep and in return he was confident that the sheep were getting the best possible care.

By the following year, 1934, we had brought our partnership to a place where Dad left much of the management to me. My interests covered every enterprise in our farm business and particularly that of keeping a farm record of our work. I entered the 4-H farm accounts project and with the help of the entire family kept a complete record of accounts and all other farm business. Working together on the farm accounts, studying our incomes and expenses, and results of what we did, helped us to plan our work better. From our completed record we were able to improve the efficiency of our work and to improve methods of raising

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crops and livestock. By sharing ideas on problems we were able to pull together more evenly, thus getting better and more satisfactory results from our work. Our partnership brought interests of our family closer together, and made possible beneficial changes in the home life which otherwise might never have been brought about.

One of my most important interests in this partnership is Dad's promise to help me through the College of Agriculture. Worth more than money is the valuable experience I gained from working under Dad's capable leadership and the stimulating influences of the things I gained in my 4-H work. Our work and plans together have brought improvements in our home and farm business which would otherwise not have happened. I have learned to value Dad's advice in my 4-H project work and have appreciated the valuable training in helping to plan our farm business.

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